

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method of configuring a computer system with one or more device drivers
2 comprising:
3 creating a configuration information file containing data that enables the installation
4 of one or more device drivers, the configuration information file containing
5 data used by the computer system to automatically install a device driver and
6 allocate computer system resources without user intervention, and data
7 specifying a command to initiate an executable software routine for installing
8 a device driver;
9 reading data from the configuration information file, the data identifying actions to be
10 accomplished and information to be used to install the one or more device
11 drivers; and
12 installing the one or more device drivers based on the data read from the
13 configuration information file.

1 2. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 creating a configuration information file includes creating data used by the computer
3 system to automatically install a device driver by implementing a Plug and Play
4 software routine.

1 3. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 creating a configuration information file includes listing an identification string for a
3 device.

1 4. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 creating a configuration information file includes listing a file identifier for an
3 information folder where information about a device is stored.

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1 5. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 creating a configuration information file includes listing a file identifier, the
3 corresponding file to be deleted prior to a new device driver being installed.

1 6. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 creating a configuration information file includes listing a command for initiating the
3 executable software routine for installing a device driver.

1 7. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 6 wherein the act of
2 creating a configuration information file includes listing at least a portion of a path to
3 the command.

1 8. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 reading data includes reading an identification string.

1 9. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 reading data includes reading an information folder where information about a device
3 is stored.

1 10. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 reading data includes reading a file identifier, the corresponding file to be deleted
3 prior to a new device driver being installed.

1 11. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 reading data includes reading a command for initiating the executable software
3 routine for installing a device driver.

1 12. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 11 wherein the act of
2 reading data includes reading at least a portion of a path to the command.

1 13. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 installing a device driver includes searching a system information file for an
3 identification string, and if the identification string is present, removing the
4 identification string from the system information file.

1 14. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 13 wherein the act of
2 searching a system information file includes searching a system registry.

1 15. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 13 wherein the act of
2 installing a device driver includes permitting the computer system to automatically
3 install a device driver and allocate computer system resources after the identification
4 string is removed from the system information file.

1 16. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 installing a device driver includes pointing an installation program to an information
3 folder where information about a device is stored.

1 17. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 16 wherein the act of
2 installing a device driver includes placing information found in the information folder
3 in an operating system folder from which the operating system can use the
4 information to install a device driver.

1 18. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 17 wherein if the
2 operating system was installed from a local hard disk drive, then the information will
3 be placed in a system registry, otherwise the information will be placed in an
4 operating system temporary folder by changing the source path in the system registry,
5 and if the information is placed in the operating system temporary folder, then upon a
6 next subsequent boot of the computer system, the value of the source path will be
7 restored to point to the original path, and the operating system temporary folder will
8 be deleted.

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1 19. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 installing a device driver includes deleting a file associated with a device driver that is
3 being removed from the computer system.

1 20. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 installing a device driver includes executing a command for initiating the executable
3 software routine for installing a device driver, the method of configuring further
4 including sufficient instructions to cause the computer system to complete installation
5 of the device driver.

1 21. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 installing a device driver includes executing a command that is a utility to remove a
3 device driver by making a set of standard application programming interface calls.

1 22. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 installing a device driver includes executing a command that is a utility to update a
3 device driver by making a set of standard application programming interface calls.

1 23. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 wherein the act of
2 installing a device driver includes executing a command that is a utility to point to a
3 file containing other commands for installing a device driver, the utility making a set
4 of standard application programming interface calls.

1 24. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 1 further comprising
2 presenting a user interface containing one or more selectable buttons that enable the
3 selection of one or more device drivers to be installed on the computer system.

1 25. The method of configuring a computer system of claim 24 wherein activating
2 a selectable button enables installation of multiple device drivers.

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1 29. The computer system of claim 27 wherein the removable media is an optical
2 media disk.

1 30. A removable media storage device comprising:
2 a configuration information file containing data that enables the installation of one or
3 more device drivers, the configuration information file containing data used
4 by a computer system to automatically install a first device driver and allocate
5 computer system resources without user intervention, and data specifying a
6 command to initiate an executable software routine for installing a second
7 device driver;
8 a user interface module that displays a selectable button that enables the selection of a
9 device driver to be installed on the computer system,
10 an installation module that:
11 reads data from the configuration information file, the data identifying actions
12 to be accomplished and information to be used to install the device
13 driver; and
14 installs the device driver based on the data read from the configuration
15 information file.

1 31. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein the configuration
2 information file includes data used by the computer system to automatically install a
3 device driver by implementing a Plug and Play software routine.

1 32. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein the configuration
2 information file includes an identification string for a device.

1 33. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein the configuration
2 information file includes a file identifier for an information folder where information
3 about a device is stored.

1 34. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein the configuration
2 information file includes a file identifier, the corresponding file to be deleted prior to
3 a new device driver being installed.

1 35. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein the configuration
2 information file includes listing a command for initiating the executable software
3 routine for installing a device driver.

1 36. The removable media storage device of claim 35 wherein the configuration
2 information file includes listing at least a portion of a path to the command.

1 37. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein activating a
2 selectable button enables installation of multiple device drivers.

1 38. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein installing the device
2 driver includes searching a system information file for an identification string, and if
3 the identification string is present, generating the selectable button on the user
4 interface.

1 39. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein installing the device
2 driver includes permitting the computer system to automatically install a device driver
3 and allocate computer system resources after an identification string is removed from
4 the system information file.

1 40. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein installing the device
2 driver includes pointing the program of the installation module to an information
3 folder where information about a device is stored.

1 41. The removable media storage device of claim 40 wherein installing the device
2 driver includes placing information found in the information folder in an operating
3 system folder from which the operating system can use the information to install a
4 device driver.

1 42. The removable media storage device of claim 41 wherein if the operating
2 system was installed from a local hard disk drive, then the information will be placed
3 in a system registry, otherwise the information will be placed in an operating system
4 temporary folder by changing the source path in the system registry, and if the
5 information is placed in the operating system temporary folder, then upon a next
6 subsequent boot of the computer system, the value of the source path will be restored
7 to point to the original path, and the operating system temporary folder will be
8 deleted.

1 43. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein installing the device
2 driver includes deleting a file associated with a device driver that is being removed
3 from the computer system.

1 44. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein installing the device
2 driver includes executing a command for initiating the executable software routine for
3 installing a device driver, the installation module further including sufficient
4 instructions to cause the computer system to complete installation of the device
5 driver.

1 45. The removable media storage device of claim 30 wherein installing the device
2 driver includes executing a command that is a utility to remove a device driver by
3 making a set of standard application programming interface calls.

